



SPEAKER'S BIO



BARBARA OWENS

COMMISSIONER
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

Barbara Owens is a Commissioner in Boston, Massachusetts field office of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS). Ms. Owens joined the FMCS in 2017, having worked as international representative and negotiator for the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada (AFM) from 2008.

In addition to supervising 68 locals in the upper Great Lakes and New England area, Ms. Owens developed webinar and training programs and materials for officers and members. Prior to that, she served as President of the 1600-member Boston Musicians' Association, AFM Local 9-535, for nine years. She also performed as a professional freelance violinist in MA, RI and NY. Ms. Owens held positions as director of operations for the Providence (RI) Performing Arts Center, the Lake Forest (IL) Symphony and the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra, and orchestra manager for Boston Música Viva and the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Owens graduated with a Bachelor of Music in performance from Boston University School for the Arts, and received certification from the Harvard University Program on Negotiation and The Labor Guild School of Industrial Relations. Her professional affiliations include past membership in the AFM, and current membership in The Labor Guild, the National Association of Parliamentarians (registered parliamentarian) and the Professional Musicians Club (president). She lives in Arlington, MA, with her husband, son, and rescue dog. She enjoys cooking, reading and spending time with her family.